3.
Object type: Patented wheel
Museum number: BCX342.9999499.1
Title: Frictionless Pulley
Description: Pulley comprised of two anodized blue disks linked to an internal ballbearing and held within a folded aluminum blank. Patent number information etched on surface of disk.
Culture/period: Industrial America
Date: Nov 8, 1955
Production place: Parry Sound, MA
Findspot: Donated by the estate of Mrs Loukissas-Battles
Materials: aluminum, anodized aluminum, steel
Technique: Industrial manufacturing;
Curator’s comments: Charles B Franklin's frictionless pulley revolutionized laundry day for countless American households. After entering the market in 1953, the wheel was already a best-seller and ubiquitous part of the suburban backyard, by the time the patent was awarded in 1955. This special edition of the pulley, anodized in a limited edition cobalt blue, was created to commemorate the official grant of the patent. Only 27 were made as gifts to the PULLCO staff.
Bibliography
Devine 1955
Sutton 1957
Kelly 1977
Paul 2002
Vandyke 2003

Acquisition date: 1988
Department: Industrial Tools & Equipment
Exhibition History

'Patently Ingenious'
'Aluminum: Our Friend'
'Domestic Bliss - Home Inventions of the 1950s'
'Lucky 13, the history of Aluminum'